

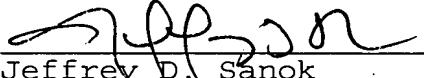
Serial No.

undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Evenson, McKeown, Edwards & Lenahan, P.L.L.C., Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NT/49741).

Respectfully submitted,

February 28, 2001


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--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A fuel swirler positioned upstream of an injection orifice is disposed at the tip of a nozzle body in a fuel injector, in which the fixed core and the nozzle body are coupled to each other via a non-magnetic cylindrical seal ring press-fitted and welded to the outer circumference of one end on the nozzle body side of the fixed core and the inner circumference of one end of the nozzle body. The inner circumference of the fuel swirler and the inner circumference of the seal ring function serve as a guide for slidably guiding a stroke movement of the needle. The fuel swirler is held between the receiving surface of the nozzle body and the orifice plate, thus defining an annular fuel passage between the outer circumference of the fuel swirler and the inner circumference of the nozzle body, so that fuel flows into a passage groove formed at the lower end surface of the fuel swirler via the annular fuel passage. A mass movable in an axial direction independently of the needle is interposed between the return spring and the needle, and a plate spring is interposed between the mass and the needle.--

APPENDIX TO PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

(Marked-up version of amended claims)

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10. (Amended) An electromagnetic fuel injector according to claim 8 [or claim 9], characterized in that a guide groove for guiding the fuel to the outer circumference of the fuel swirler is formed between the upper end surface of the fuel swirler and the receiving surface of the nozzle body for receiving the upper end surface of the fuel swirler.